

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A fiber having an exposed surface, comprising: a biodegradable synthetic polymer forming a portion of the exposed surface of the fiber; and a plurality of particles formed of a low friction material also forming a portion of the exposed surface of the fiber.
2. The fiber of claim 1, wherein said fiber is a bicomponent fiber comprising a sheath component and a core component, wherein said sheath component is formed of said biodegradable polymer and said low friction particles.
3. The fiber of claim 2, wherein said core component comprises a biodegradable polymer.
4. The fiber of claim 3, wherein said sheath component and said core component comprise polylactic acid.
5. The fiber of claim 2, wherein said core component comprises a non-biodegradable polymer.
6. The fiber of claim 5, wherein said non-biodegradable polymer comprises a polyolefin, polyester, polyamide, polyacrylate, polystyrene, polyurethane, acetal resin, polyethylene vinyl alcohol, thermoplastic elastomer or a blend or co- or terpolymer thereof.
7. The fiber of claim 1, wherein said fiber is a monocomponent fiber.
8. The fiber of claim 1, wherein said low friction particles are formed of a fluoropolymer.
9. The fiber of claim 8, wherein said low friction particles are formed of a non-thermoplastic fluoropolymer.
10. The fiber of claim 9, wherein said fluoropolymer is selected from non-melt processable polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) homopolymers and copolymers thereof.

11. The fiber of claim 10, wherein said copolymer includes one or more monomers selected hexafluoropropylene, perfluorooxyalkyl vinyl ethers having C1-C4 alkyl radicals, vinylidene fluoride, ethylene, propylene, vinyl esters and acrylic monomers.

12. The fiber of claim 1, wherein said low friction particles are present in said fiber in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 15 percent by weight based on the total weight of the fiber.

13. A fiberfill material comprising fibers having an exposed surface and comprising: a biodegradable synthetic polymer forming at least a portion of the exposed surface of the fiber; and a plurality of particles formed of a low friction material also forming at least a portion of the exposed surface of the fiber.

14. An article filled with a fiberfill material, said fiberfill material comprising fibers having an exposed surface and comprising: a biodegradable synthetic polymer forming at least a portion of the exposed surface of the fiber; and a plurality of particles formed of a low friction material also forming at least a portion of the exposed surface of the fiber.

15. The article of claim 14, comprising a pillow.

16. The article of claim 14, comprising an article of apparel.

17. The article of claim 14, comprising a bedding material.

18. The article of claim 17, wherein said bedding article is selected from a sleeping bag, a comforter, a mattress pad, or a quilt.